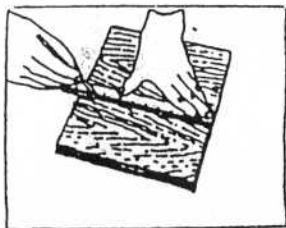


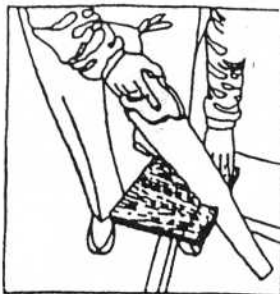
## Making The Tailgate

61



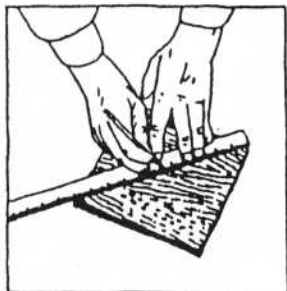
The tailgate should be a square with the same width as the objective mirror. (e.g. a 10" mirror in a 12" tube gets a 10" diameter tailgate.)

62



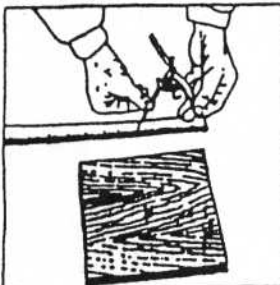
Cutting out the tailgate.

63



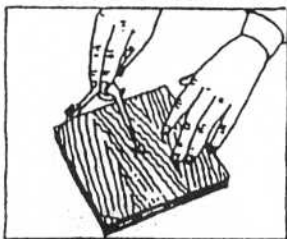
Finding the center of the tailgate.

64



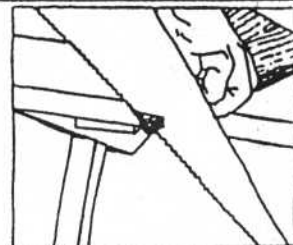
Set the compass for the radius OF THE TUBE. (Not the radius of the mirror.)

65



Drawing a circle with the compass point at the center of the tailgate. Only the very corners of the wood will be touched by the pencil.

66



Sawing off the corners of the tailgate at the pencil marks. Now the tailgate should fit inside the telescope tube. (Plane or sand to fit if necessary.)

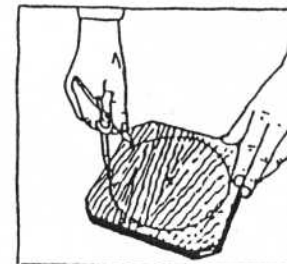
## Making The Tailgate, Continued...

67



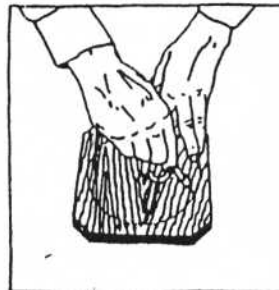
Drawing a second circle for the placement of the tailgate bolts.

68



This circle should be 2" smaller than the diameter of the objective mirror. (E.g. for a 10" mirror, we need an 8" diameter circle.)

69



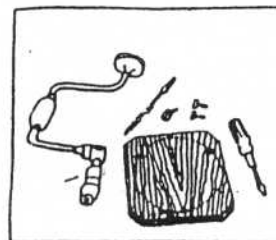
Dividing the circle into six equal segments.

70



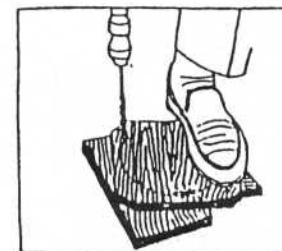
Marking the circle at each of the six points

71



Of the six marks on the circle, we choose three (every other one) for our equilateral triangle. One bolt is placed at each of the three angles.

72



Drilling bolt holes. (A power drill also works well, if available.)